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FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6717

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RHMFIUU/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC

RHMCSUU/FAA NATIONAL HQ WASHINGTON DC

RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 000467

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPT FOR OES/IHB HHS FOR OGHA EAP/MTS - MCOPPOLA NEW DELHI FOR JEHRENDREICH

BANGKOK FOR REO HOWARD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: TBIO KFLU EAGR EAIR CASC ETRD ECON SN

SUBJECT: SINGAPORE: NO H1N1 CASES; HOME QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS

LIFTED

REF: A.) SINGAPORE 420

B.) SINGAPORE 445 C.) SINGAPORE 401

11. (U) There are still no reported cases of H1N1 Type A Influenza in Singapore. As of 1700 on May 17, the Ministry of Health (MOH) reported that 37 suspected cases have been investigated and, of those, 30 cases tested negative for Influenza A, while seven cases tested positive for typical seasonal flu strains. MOH lifted on May 16 the Home Quarantine Order for people with travel to Mexico within the seven days prior to their arrival in Singapore (ref A). On May 12 the GOS lifted the visa requirements for Mexican citizens, which it had instituted on May 2 as a measure to combat the spread of H1N1 flu to Singapore (ref B).

No Pork Bans, but Some Take it Off the Menu

12. (SBU) The Singapore Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) has advised Singaporeans publicly that there is no danger of acquiring H1N1 from consuming properly handled and cooked pork or pork products (ref C). Still, some wet-market vendors and restaurants have opted to stop selling pork. An FAS contact indicated that Singapore Airlines has removed pork from its First and Business Class menus, and demand among some restaurants for cooked pork products has declined about 10 to 15 percent. However, there has not been a widespread removal of pork from most restaurants. The United States supplied approximately 11 percent of Singapore's pork imports in 2008. Most U.S. supplies of frozen pork are for the local higher-end and western-style restaurants where demand for pork remains steady, according to FAS contacts.

SHIELDS